

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional) Allegation that CIA was Responsible for the Disappearance of the McNeill Brothers in the Jack Anderson Television Commentary of 26 January 1981

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| STAT | FROM: | EXTENSION | | NO. |
| | Director of Security 4E 60 | | | DATE |
| TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building) | DATE | | OFFICER'S INITIALS | COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) |
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Executive Director
Deputy Director for Administration

FROM: [redacted]
Director of Security

SUBJECT: Allegation that CIA was Responsible for the
Disappearance of the McNell Brothers in the
Jack Anderson Television Commentary of
26 January 1981 [redacted]

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1. Anderson continued his anti-Central Intelligence Agency campaign with a commentary on the 26 January edition of the ABC television show "Good Morning America." In this commentary (Attachment), Anderson leads the viewer to believe that the Central Intelligence Agency was responsible for the disappearance of the McNell brothers. Anderson states that former Deputy Director for Operations, [redacted], was forced out by "the old pros in the CIA" who did not "want an outsider sticking his nose into their (CIA's) business." [redacted] old partners, the McNell brothers, then disappeared and Anderson states that the "...word spread that the CIA had something to do with their disappearance." [redacted]

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2. Two explanations are possible for this commentary. First, Anderson needed something to fill his two-minute segment on "Good Morning America" and had the old [redacted] McNell information readily available. He then decided to spice up the commentary with a Central Intelligence Agency connection which is a sure-fire attention-getter. Anderson used to be on the "Good Morning America" show each morning at 7:11 A.M.; however, in the past three months he has been used on an average of two times per week, a severe reduction in public exposure as well as in salary. [redacted]

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AND METHODS INVOLVED

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3. The other possible reason for this type of article, is that Anderson actually believes the hand of Central Intelligence Agency can be found lurking behind any unexplained mystery. Whatever the motivation for this commentary, several million Americans were provided with a healthy dose of incorrect information on the Central Intelligence Agency that resulted in further denigration of this organization in the eyes of the public.

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Distribution

Orig - Addressee
1 - ExecDir
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